



# Merrick County Board Minutes



**February 23, 2021**

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 9:14 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Kucera, Yrkoski, Placke, Dexter, Weller, and Wiegert present. Kreachbaum was absent. County Attorney Homolka was also present.

Notice of the meeting was given thereof by publications in the Republican Nonpareil and The Palmer Journal and the Merrick County Website. Proof of publication is filed in the Clerk's Office. Copies of the agenda were mailed to each Supervisor and kept current and available to the public at the County Clerk's Office.

Chairman Wiegert declared the meeting was preceded by publicized notice and having acknowledged and identified the location of the posting of the current copy of the Open Meetings Act, called the meeting to order and in open session at 9:14 a.m.

Moved Placke, second Dexter to convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:14 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

**Agenda:** Moved Dexter, second Yrkoski to approve the agenda as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Minutes:** Moved Dexter, second Kucera to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2021 as published. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Meeting reports:** Weller had a zoom meeting for Bader Park on February 16, 2021; Dexter had a NIRMA webinar on COVID on February 18, 2021; Yrkoski had a zoom meeting for Central Nebraska Action Partnership on February 22, 2021 and Wiegert had a 4H Building Committee meeting on February 15, 2021.

**Official's reports:** Veteran Service Officer, Tom Reimers presented his 4<sup>th</sup> quarter report to the Board and said he did not have as many visitors as the quarter before. Assessor Myers said they are working on final values and will be increasing ag values. They are in the middle of personal property schedules and homestead. Interim Planning and Zoning Administrator Scott Stuhr introduced himself and said he and Jeremy Brandt, Hamilton County Planning & Zoning have been working on administrative plats, building permits, and with the villages.

**4H Proclamation:** Five students, Grant Stuhmer, Chantz Stuhmer, Fallon Wells, Hannah Siwinski, & Raegan Ferraro gave a 4H presentation to the Board and then Extension Educator Stuhr read the 4H Proclamation with Chairman Wiegert reading the last paragraph of the Proclamation declaring March 2021 as 4H month. Moved Kucera, second Dexter to approve and have the Chairman sign the proclamation declaring March, 2021 as 4H month. Roll Call: All Ayes. The students then reported some of the activities 4H will be having which included the pancake feed, which will have curb side service and the cake walk.

**Juvenile Diversion plan:** Truancy officer, Kendra Lutz reported the 2021-2025 Comprehensive Juvenile Services Community Plan and said this is done every four years. Lutz said this is a running document and changes can be made anytime. Moved Dexter, second Yrkoski to approve and sign the 2021-2025 Comprehensive Juvenile Services Community Plan. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Juvenile Diversion grants:** Juvenile Diversion officer, Jordanne McNeff said the 2021-2022 Community Based Juvenile Service Aid Program Grant is for \$108394.00 and covers just wages and the 2021-2022 Juvenile Services Enhancement Grant is for \$29,484.00 makes up the difference that the other grant doesn't cover. Grants can only be used for certain things and the Crime Commission is being very strict on what the monies can be used for. They did not apply for the 2021-2022 Juvenile Services Commission Grant because it was like the other grants and so they couldn't apply for it. Moved Kucera, second Dexter to approve and have the Chairman sign the 2021-2022 Community Based Juvenile Service Aid Program Grant and the 2021-2022 Juvenile Services Enhancement Grant. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Juvenile Diversion Interlocal:** Moved Dexter, second Weller to approve and sign the 2021-2022 Interlocal Agreement between Merrick, Polk, Hamilton, and Nance Counties for Juvenile Diversion services. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Noxious Weed Reports:** Moved Kucera, second Dexter to approve and have the Chairman sign the Activity Report, Noxious Weed Infestation Report, Weed Control Authority Board Roster, and the 2021 Budget Report for Noxious Weed. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-2:** Moved Placke, second Yrkoski to approve and sign RESOLUTION 2021-2 for weed control authority to Kevin Koziol, Weed Superintendent. Roll Call: All Ayes. RESOLUTION 2021-2 is on file in the County Clerk's Office for public viewing.



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Placke absent at 10:02 a.m.

**One & Six hearing:** Moved Kucera, second Dexter to open the One & Six Road Plan hearing at 10:03 a.m. Roll Call: Ayes: Weller, Yrkoski, Kucera, Dexter, and Wiegert. Absent: Placke.

Placke present at 10:04 a.m. Highway Superintendent Meyer asked the Board to approve RESOLUTION 2021-3 adopting the One & Six Year Plans. Moved Kucera, second Dexter to go out of the hearing at 10:06 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes. Moved Dexter, second Kucera to approve and sign RESOLUTION 2021-3 adopting the One and Six Year Plan. Roll Call: All Ayes. RESOLUTION 2021-3 is on file in the County Clerk's Office for public viewing.

**Planning & Zoning:** Moved Placke, second Weller to give official authority to Scott Stuhr and Jeremy Brandt to be the interim Planning & Zoning Administrators for Merrick County. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Courthouse back door:** Ed Dexter presented the Board with three bids for replacing the back door to the Courthouse. The bids were from Rathman-Manning Construction for \$16,200.00 for a pair of hollow metal stile and rail doors with the top section having 1 inch insulated glass and the doors would be painted by the Board's choice and does not include the maglock and security pad installation; Island Glass Company for \$15,915.00 for glass doors and does not include the maglock and security pad installation; and M & O Door Products for \$19,380.00 for glass doors and does include the maglock and security pad installation. Board felt it would be safer to go with the hollow metal door with the top section having glass. Moved Weller, second Kucera to go with the Rathman-Manning Construction bid for \$16,200.00. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Courthouse Bond:** Andy Forney with D.A. Davidson told the Board that the 2016 bond was callable this month and that the Board had already approved the refunding of this bond. Forney said he was in front of the Board to ask them if they wanted to refinance they would lose the call option and the bond could not be paid off early and would run until 2025. If the Board would pay off the amount would be \$635,000.00. Forney felt the interest rates now are at the lowest they will probably ever be at .48%. The Board said that they \$635,000.00 could be used for projects that might come up like windows, parking lot, etc. and felt it would be better to refund the bond instead of paying it off. Moved Placke, second Weller to refund or refinance the courthouse bond. Roll Call: Ayes: Dexter, Kucera, Weller, Placke, Wiegert. Nays: None. Abstain: Yrkoski.

**Resignation:** County Attorney Homolka tendered her resignation as County Attorney as of March 19, 2021. Homolka was appointed County Judge by Governor Ricketts. Homolka said that Aaron Kunz as he will help fill in the gap until the Board gets someone appointed but does not want the position. Homolka will be sworn in at Aurora, NE in Hamilton County on March 19, 2021. The Board will need to start advertising because the position must be filled within 45 days. Moved Weller, second Dexter to accept County Attorney Lynelle Homolka's resignation effective March 19, 2021. Roll Call: All Ayes. Moved Kucera, second Dexter to have the applications for the position will be due to the County Clerk's Office on March 12, 2021 and the personnel committee will do interviews on March 16 and March 17, 2021 and bring their recommendation to the Board on March 23, 2021. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Redistricting:** Election Commissioner Wichmann told the Board that every 10 years the supervisor districts need to be redistricted. Wichmann told them that a company called gWorks has contacted her with prices and plans and what is included. The basic plan is for \$3,950.00, the Standard is \$4,550.00 and the Advanced is \$5,650.00. Wichmann said that she was not interested in the Advanced Plan but the Standard would do everything that would be needed. Redistricting is a huge task. All prices are a one-time cost. Moved Dexter, second Yrkoski to go with the Standard Plan with gWorks for redistricting for the Election Commissioner. Roll Call: Ayes: Kucera, Weller, Yrkoski, Dexter, and Wiegert. Nays: Placke.

**February 2021 payroll:** The February 2021 payroll was presented for approval: General: Gross: \$159,741.53 Net: \$111,775.94, Roads: Gross: \$57,062.17 Net: \$40,753.77, Juvenile Diversion: Gross: 6,206.72 Net: \$3,950.89. Moved Placke, second Dexter to approve the February 2021 payroll as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Adjourn:** Moved Dexter, second Placke to adjourn at 11:31 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes.

/s/Roger Wiegert, Chairman

/s/Marcia Wichmann, County Clerk



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